Administrative - Internal Use Only

30 JUN 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Technology, DA

VIA: Chief, Installation Division, ESG/OIT

FROM: Director of Information Resources, DI

SUBJECT: Request for Approval of Purchase of Personal Computers

STAT REFERENCE: A. [ ]

B. ADP Control Officer Bulletin dtd 12 Jul 83

1. The Office of Information Resources is purchasing a total of 280 IBM PC/AT's to be used primarily for connections to the Agency's information systems network (see attached Form 88's). The computer configuration ordered basically follows the guidelines provided by OIT in its memo on "OIT Supported Workstations." Part of the order (115 units) represents the current model of the IBM 3270 PC/AT which we would like to use in the near future as part of the additional port allocation the DI has received for this summer. The second part of the order (165 units) represents the new model of the IBM 3270 PC/AT which will be available starting this fall. These units may initially be installed as stand-alone computers, but our intention is to link them into the information systems network as soon as possible.

STAT 2. These units are slated for delivery [ ] However, to help alleviate OIT storage constraints, we have ordered the units at a rate of about 50 per month starting, hopefully, in late July. The 110 current models will be delivered first, followed by the new model when it is ready this fall. Thus, the actual delivery and installation are expected to span a five to six month period.

3. All basic units are configured with a 1.2Mb floppy diskette, a fixed internal hard disk (20Mb or 30Mb), an extended graphics adapter, and a 3270-AT color display. In addition, each unit has been ordered with the DOS 3.2 operating system and version 3.0 of the 3270-PC control program. This minimum should be all that is required if the machine is going to be used primarily as a terminal.

4. Some users, however, may wish to take advantage of the personal computer aspects of the workstation. They may choose to configure their workstation with a math co-processor, additional disk drive, and perhaps a printer. Other users may want to take advantage of host-based graphics and may want to add a PSS card, Serial/Parallel card, and perhaps a plotter. We have not ordered all peripherals for all computers, but have ordered a limited number of additional peripheral equipment (see attached Form 88's). We expect that when a TRN is submitted for installation of one of these units, the

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requesting office can specify on the TRN the specific configuration options they would like installed on the unit when it is delivered. I should also note that we have ordered nearly 200 converter boxes (RS232 to mil-spec) for use with the initial PC's linked via twisted pair.

5. I understand that OIT will be responsible for maintenance on all the terminals and personal computers linked into the information systems network. I also understand that the maintenance of the fixed internal hard drives represents a special case. Since these units cannot ever be returned to the manufacturer, we have ordered enough extra units so that replacement drives will be in stock. I also understand that your office is negotiating with IBM to come to some mutually agreeable procedure and cost for handling defective units during the warranty period.

6. We have identified the number of new units we need, but the specific allocation by office has not yet been completed. Some offices that are now short may prefer, or may require, Delta Data terminals instead of personal computers as workstations. Since we cannot purchase new Delta Data terminals, we will have to allow other offices to "trade" their current Delta Data terminals for some of the new PC's. We hope to complete this allocation by office in the near future so TRN's can specify the appropriate configuration and DCN.

7. In accordance with the references, we request your coordination in this purchase. Should you have any questions, contact

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Attachments:
  As stated

APPROVED:

_____   _____
Director of Information Technology   Date

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